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# HAWAII FILIPINO CHRONICLE

HAWAII'S ONLY WEEKLY FILIPINO-AMERICAN NEWSPAPER

## FARRINGTON HIGH SCHOOL CELEBRATES 75TH ANNIVERSARY

By Dennis GALOLO

*"Enter to learn; go forth to serve."*—Farrington High School motto

Such is the motto that has been impressed upon the hearts and minds of Kalihi's young men and women during their brief four years at Farrington High School.

For over seven decades, tens of thousands of students have sat in its classrooms, roamed its halls, donned its sports teams' maroon and white uniforms and joined its various clubs and student organizations. The school's name has become synonymous with Kalihi, wherein residents take great pride in its triumphs and also lament its shortcomings.

Numerous Farrington alumni have gone on to enjoy successful

careers in public service and in the private sector. Its list of notable alumni include State Supreme Court Associate Justice Simeon Acoba, former Hawaii Gov. Benjamin Cayetano, State Sen. Donna Mercado Kim, former NFL star and Superbowl champion Jesse Sapolu, current City prosecuting attorney Keith Kaneshiro, former Honolulu police chief Michael Nakamura, American Idol semi-finalist Jordan Segundo, former pro baseball player Wally Yonamine, journalist

Emme Tomimbang and successful local entertainer and businesswoman Cha Thompson. The list goes on and on.

Farrington's athletics teams have also been a force in prep athletics, competing year-in and year-out for championships in football, basketball, wrestling and other sports. In fact, over Farrington's illustrious 75 year history, its teams have won numerous league, state and territorial (before statehood)

(continued on page 4)



Farrington High School

## Violence Hampers Phl Economic Progress

By Paolo ROMERO

**M**ANILA (Xinhua) – Violence makes Filipinos poorer and ending it will greatly improve their lives, the World Bank said in its World Development Report 2011 (WDR 2011).

The report, which focuses on conflict, security and development, said the country's economic growth is being derailed by the recurring cycles of political and criminal violence.

The situation is especially more pronounced in Southern Philippines where two of the most conflict-affected regions - Caraga and Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao -- are also the country's poorest.

"Violent conflict has exacted a heavy social and economic cost on the Philippines, with over 120,000 people killed over the last three decades," Nigel Roberts, World Bank Special Represen-



tative and Director of the WDR 2011, said on Tuesday.

Roberts said that while much of the world has made rapid progress in reducing poverty over the past six decades, areas characterized by repeated cycles of political and criminal violence, such as some areas in Mindanao, are being left far behind.

Their economic growth, he said, is

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## Cachola Named Filipino Entrepreneur of the Year

By HFC Staff

**K**alihi medical internist Dr. Erlinda Cachola was named the Filipino Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii's 2011 Filipino Entrepreneur of the Year. She was recognized at a special awards banquet held at the Hale Koa Hotel on April 29, 2011.

The Chamber's prestigious award recognizes business owners who have demonstrated excellence in business and who have made meritorious contributions to Hawaii's community.

The Entrepreneur of the Year Award is the latest in a long line of honors that Dr. Cachola

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Dr. Erlinda Cachola

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## EDITORIAL

# Excessive Corporate Bonuses Continue to Outrage Americans; It's Time for Change

No matter that the press is on to them. No matter that politicians strut the halls of Congress denigrating their immoral excess. No matter that middle and working America have finally caught on to their shenanigans that have caused taxpayers billions in bailout money. In spite of all this, with no care at what communities across the country think, Wall Street continue to lavish themselves once again with shockingly high bonuses.

Just last year alone, CEOs at 299 companies raked in a total of \$3.4 BILLION in salary and bonuses. The average CEO received \$11.4 million in compensation. The number is so astounding and worth paraphrasing -- imagine one person receiving \$11.4 million in one year ALONE, for one company. (as opposed to the more acceptable personal, private investments) That's just the average. Many executives from these top corporations like Ray Irani of Occidental Petroleum Corp. took in \$76.1 million in compensation for just 2010. In the span of only 10 years, he received \$857 million. All this for one person at one company, as oil companies decry the high cost of crude oil and justify raising the price of gasoline.

In another example, remember that General Electric (GE) posted profits of \$14.2 billion, but paid zero taxes and claimed \$3.2 billion in tax credit. The second half of this outrage continues. GE's CEO Jeff Immelt (who also serves as President Barack Obama's "jobs" czar) took in \$21,428,765 in total compensation for only 2010. The fact that President Obama selected Immelt as the country's "jobs" czar is beyond absurdity considering that Immelt's salary probably cost thousands upon thousands of job losses to GE alone, all the while, the government struggles to pay for these workers temporary unemployment and GE claims millions in tax credits and not pay even a dime in taxes. Now if Americans believe corruption is a phenomenon afflicting only third world countries, think again. Government and big corporations in the first world take corruption to a new level, one that is deemed legal and pushed down upon the populace through propaganda.

Total executive compensation went up 23 percent and set another record-breaking year. The average CEO compensation is 343

times than the median wage.

## LESSONS TO LEARN

The whole scandal of obscene bonuses highlights two lessons.

The first is that this practice is not innocuous as previously thought by most Americans, simply involving private businesses going about their merrily way and compensating their workers as they see fit. No! Wall Street's greed affects communities in the loss of jobs and loss of taxes. The \$3.4 billion in executive bonuses alone could support over 100,000 jobs with a median wage of just over \$33,000. These unemployed workers must now be a part of the government's social welfare system, at least temporarily. Additionally, the loss of taxes via corporate tax breaks these companies claim while paying their executives billions comes at a cost to Americans who must pay more in taxes. To add salt to injury, when corporations are "deemed" too big to fail, they're also guaranteed that government and taxpayers will bail their companies out of the mess (which by the way is actually free, premium-less, insurance, unlike how Americans must pay insurance for practically everything: medical, home, liability, work injury, business, automobile, etc.)

The second lesson Americans should be aware of is that morality must be injected into our capitalist system. Without morality, the system will eventually collapse to greed. How to inculcate morality in capitalistic practice is difficult in that big corporations have proven self-monitoring doesn't work; and at the same time, big government should not be big corporations' policeman, either. The answer is that we as a society must be mindful to change our culture of greed. In our own families, we must discuss with family members limitations of greed and correct conduct. Instead of supporting movies and music that glorify riches, let's be smarter consumers and support artists and entertainers whose work educate us and inspire us to be better people. Most importantly, we must replace greed with a greater value for community, brotherhood, and sisterhood. If we are able to make this fundamental change, the ripples of cause and effect we are feeling today would not be one of scarcity, injustice and anger, but be of abundance, justice and harmony. ■



## HAWAII FILIPINO CHRONICLE

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# LEGISLATIVE CONNECTION

## Museums and Gardens, part 2



by Senator Will ESPERO

In the last article, we talked about some out of the ordinary places to visit. Here are more museums Oahu has to offer.

**ART**

**Contemporary Art Museum.** The former residence of the Cooke-Spalding family, lovely tropical gardens, hilly lawn, and innovative architecture complement the works displayed inside. Children can take art lessons on the first Saturday morning each month, by reservation.

**Hawaii State Art Museum.** Hosteller Chris Hemmeter bought and renovated the former YMCA to its current splendor. A 2002 gala kicked off the museum's grand opening. Visitors can enjoy First Friday concerts, Second Saturday

family fun day, lunchtime art lectures, a memorable café lunch, a gift shop selling gorgeous products from local artisans, and a spacious shaded lawn.

**Honolulu Academy of Arts.** More than 60,000 works of Asian, Hawaiian, European, and American art that span 5,000 years, are featured at Hawaii's largest private art museum. Family fun day is the third Sunday of each month, featuring entertainment, crafts, and tours.

**John Young Museum of Art.** Krauss Hall, just south of the Art Building at the University of Hawaii is home to the last major project by painter John Young.

**Tennent Art Foundation Gallery.** The former home of English artist Madge Tennent displays the paintings that reveal her fascination with Polynesians. Her works are also on display with fine art museums locally, in San Francisco and London.

**HAWAIIAN**

**Iolani Palace.** One of only three royal palaces in the U.S., two monarchs, King Kalakaua and

Queen Lili'uokalani, governed from here. The building was then used as the capitol building for the succession of governments thereafter until 1969, when the existing State Capitol was built.

**Queen Emma Summer Palace.** The Boston-built home in Nuuanu Valley was the summer retreat of Queen Emma, her husband King Kamehameha IV, and their young son Prince Albert Edward. The breezy wooden home features furniture, dining ware, and other items of historical interest.

**HISTORICAL**

**Board of Water Supply.** Hidden away in the old green pumping station at North King Street and Waiakamilo Road in Kalihi, the museum features the original 1899 steam pump and displays on our island's water cycle, water conservation, and the history of the BWS. By appointment only.

**Bishop Museum.** Traveling and permanent exhibits in the many exhibit halls, planetarium shows, a garden tour, participation hula, and lava melting demonstration round out a full day's visit.

**Hawaii Maritime Center.** Kids loved the real racing boat they could climb into, submarine classroom, ship corridors, steering wheels, and all the rest of the touch-please exhibits. This member of the Bishop Museum cluster is currently closed pending reopening.

**Hawaiian Railway Society.** The coral building downtown and

the Ewa station are two remnants of the days when crops were transported by train to Honolulu harbor. The leisurely ride is a pleasant school field trip or Sunday afternoon ride. Don't miss the Halloween ghost story ride!

**Judiciary History Center.** The Center is visited by schoolchildren along with the Governor's Mansion and State Capitol to learn about the three branches of government. Children watch a film about an early landmark case, re-enact the trial, then hear how the Supreme Court ruled.

**Mission Houses Museum.** A quaint journey back in time, the museum features tools, clothing, photos of the landscape back then, and other aspects of daily life for the brave evangelists who traveled nearly halfway around the world to bring the Gospel to Hawaii.

**Waipahu Plantation Village.** The village displays the cultures of immigrants who began life anew in our islands. From all over Asia, Puerto Rico, and Portugal, workers with no common language lived in plantation homes and labored to plant in the fields during our agricultural golden age.

**Washington Place.** Captain John Dominis built the colonial style mansion that housed his daughter-in-law, the princess who became Hawaii's last reigning queen, Lili'uokalani. She lived here before residing at Iolani Palace as a monarch. Hawaii's governors also lived here until 2001.

**MILITARY**

**U.S.S. Arizona.** Remembered because of her sinking and the loss of the 1,177 servicemen during the December 7, 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor, the Memorial retains the right, in perpetuity, to fly the U.S. flag as if she were an active, commissioned naval vessel. Battleship Missouri. Japan surrendered on the Mighty Mo, ending WWII. It served in WWII, the Korean War, and Operation Desert Storm, was decommissioned in 1992, and donated in 1998 as a museum ship. U.S.S. Bowfin Submarine. Launched in 1942, it served nine WWII patrols, again in the Korean War, and as a training submarine in Seattle before being decommissioned and stationed at Pearl Harbor.

**Pacific Aerospace Museum.** Check out the plane closest to the flight simulators and see if you recognize the photo of the pilot. (Hint: He's the President known as "Papa"). The vintage airplanes and backdrop of the battle arenas make for a thoughtful stroll. Naval Air Museum Barber's Point. Rich military history is on display at the museum commemorating the Navy's last naval air station in the Hawaiian islands.

**Tropic Lightning Museum & U.S. Army.** Military buffs will enjoy the U.S. Army's two museums, one at Fort DeRussy in Waikiki and the other in Schofield Barracks, which feature Army tanks, artillery, weaponry, helicopters, and exciting "you were there" photos and technical effects. ■

## EDITORIAL

# No Time to Waste

A heavy downpour of about an hour and what happens? Metro Manila was inundated last Saturday. And the monsoon season is still many weeks away. The massive flooding over the weekend should serve as an early warning to disaster agencies that Metro Manila, home to over a tenth of the country's population, is not ready for the typhoon season.

The country has seen enough cataclysmic typhoons and flooding to know the consequences of being unprepared for nature's fury. Metro Manila reeled from the winds of super typhoon "Milenyo," and then from the consequent massive power outages that lasted up to a week in some parts of the metropolis. "Ondoy" and "Pepeng" triggered disastrous flooding that took several weeks to subside in many parts of the Laguna de Bay floodplain.

Disaster agencies have since procured life rafts and other rescue equipment in preparation for typhoons. But the most basic preparation is clearing drainage systems. Last weekend's torrential flooding subsided quickly but showed that more needs to be done. If Metro Manila could be submerged in an hour-long downpour, think of what could happen if the heavy rain lasted for an entire day, as in Ondoy and Pepeng.

By now utility companies should also be deep in preparation for contingencies. In many parts of Metro Manila, water supply is dependent on electricity to run pumps. Power lines and poles are expected to be damaged during typhoons. What is important is to restore power supply as quickly as possible, and not just to the posh villages in Makati. Communication is also crucial and service disruptions must be addressed quickly.

At the airport, authorities must be prepared, if not with power generators that work, then at least to ensure that cell-

*(continued on page 4)*

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## HEADLINES (CONT.)

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championships.

## DIAMOND JUBILEE

Farrington opened its doors in September 1936 with 738 students and 25 teachers in temporary buildings at the present site of the Kamehameha Homes housing project. It was named after Wallace Rider Farrington, who served as the sixth governor of the Territory of Hawaii from 1921 to 1929.

Many of its buildings were designed by noted architect Charles Dickey, who also designed other historic buildings such as the Alexander & Baldwin Building, Halekulani Hotel, Queen's Hospital, the old Waikiki Theater, Varsity Theater and several buildings on the Kamehameha Schools-Kapalama campus. During World War II, the campus was used by the U.S. Army as a hospital.

To mark its 75th Anniversary, Farrington hosted a special Founders Day celebration at the school's gym on May 6, 2011. Over 100 student performers in collaboration with alumni, faculty and community groups put on a spectacular show filled with music, cultural dances and theatricals for attendees. The evening's festivities were emceed by award-winning TV personality and producer Emme Tomimbang, who is also a member of Farrington's Class of 1968.

"It was exciting to be back in the gym and remembering my high school moments," she says. "The students put on a fabulous program."

Included in the festivities was a video history of the life of Wallace Rider Farrington, his relationship to the school and why the school was named after him.

According to Principal Alfredo Carganilla, a slew of events have been planned for the coming school year marking the school's 75th Anniversary. The year-long celebration will culminate with a huge dinner on the school's front lawn sometime in 2012.



Honors and awards won by Farrington students are proudly on display at the school's trophy display case.

"It will be a great time for all alumni," says Carganilla. "Excitement for next school year is mounting."

## THE MODERN GOVERNOR

Today, this urban school located in the heart of Kalihi has over 2,600 students—one of the largest student body populations of all Hawaii's public schools—and 150 faculty members. The school is led by Principal Carganilla, a 1986 alum who only recently took over the reins from long-time principal Catherine Payne.

Carganilla has had a long history with Farrington. He coached varsity baseball from 1988 to 2003 and before that served as a school counselor. He also met his wife during his sophomore year at Farrington. She is currently a second grade teacher at Puuhalae Elementary.

Looking back at his time at Farrington, Carganilla says he's grateful for the many teachers who guided and positively influenced his life.

"I have always been proud to be associated with Farrington where I developed the skills that have helped me get where I am today," he says. "Without the foundation from Farrington, I don't know what I would be doing today. I had great teachers who treated me fairly and really pushed me to reach my highest potential."

Jordan Segundo, former American Idol contestant and member of Farrington's Class of 2003, says that it was at Farrington where he discovered his passion for music and singing. His teachers in chorus and piano motivated him

to push beyond his comfort zone to reach his highest potential.

"Farrington provided me with the skills and knowledge to succeed beyond high school," he says. "The experiences and opportunities I received as a student also gave me the inspiration to follow my dreams. Farrington is a part of my foundation and has helped make me the person that I am today."

Segundo says that one of his most memorable events during his school years was singing the national anthem shortly after the 9/11 terrorist attack.

"During my sophomore year, I was asked to perform the national anthem over the entire school telecom. It was such an emotional yet proud moment for everyone and I was honored to have been a part of it," he says.

## DOWN BUT NOT OUT

Many of Farrington's students come from immigrant and lower socio-economic families. In the 2007-2008 school year, 55.6 percent of the students qualified for free or reduced-price school lunches. Many of its students do not speak English at home and are oftentimes the first in their respective families to attend college.

Coming from seemingly disadvantaged backgrounds has not deterred Farrington students, many of whom have succeeded not only in athletics, but in the classroom. The school's student organizations and clubs have won numerous awards over the years in newspaper reporting, Junior ROTC competitions, and a number of science and physics contests.

For Tomimbang, who was also a member of the cheerleading squad, Farrington was always viewed as the "underdog."

"Whether it was in sports, ROTC, thespian, literary or science competitions, we always had to prove ourselves and that we were



(l to r) Cha Thompson, husband Jack Thompson and Jesse Sapola pose for a group photo at the 2008 Farrington Governors Hall of Fame Banquet. Cha and Jesse are proud Farrington alums.

just as good as any school—even private schools which seemed to have everything we didn't," she says.

Tomimbang admitted carrying this attitude with her as reporter with the local news stations and ultimately with her own production company.

"Coming from a public school and a rather modest life, I always felt that I was just as good as the other news personalities," she says.

Class of 1964 member Cha Thompson echoes Tomimbang's sentiments. A product of Kalihi Valley Homes housing project where she was raised, Thompson remembers the camaraderie among students, a collective desire to make something of themselves and to get ahead in life.

"We worked to achieve and tried not to let the stigma of being in a poor district hamper our chances of getting ahead," says Thompson, who went on to become a successful businesswoman along with her husband Jack. Together, they run Tihati Productions, the largest and longest running entertainment company in Hawaii.

Thompson's five children all attended private school. But she reminds them that it was her Farrington education that helped pay for their tuition.

"They went to schools like Kamehameha, St. Louis and Punahou but they all know Farrington's alma mater," she says.

## THE FARRINGTON WAY

Many alumni, grateful for their positive experiences at Farrington, have given back to the school in their own unique way. Segundo, for example, has spoken at several student assemblies and encouraged students to dream big.

"Whenever I speak in front of the students, I share my personal experiences growing up in Kalihi and the challenges that I had to

the Philippines, the country can learn from the experiences of others that have undergone promising transitions out of severe violence, such as Bosnia and Herzegovina, Chile, Colombia, Ghana, Indonesia, and Timor-Leste.

"To break cycles of insecurity, national reformers and their international partners have managed to build legitimate institutions that provide a sustained level of secu-

rercome," he says. "I try to inspire them to accomplish their goals. I grew up in Kalihi and was once in their shoes. I hope they realize that they too can achieve whatever they put their hearts and minds to. If they work hard and never give up, they can accomplish great things."

For Tomimbang, giving back included establishing a scholarship in her name. The \$1,000 scholarship is provided through the Emme Tomimbang Education Fund at the Hawaii Community Foundation and is available to a graduating senior interested in pursuing a career in journalism or broadcast media.

"I wanted to give back to someone who can at least have some support and guidance that I would love to offer. Hopefully, I'll see this person become successful in life," says Tomimbang, who grew up poor in Kalihi and was raised by a single parent.

Reagan Honda, Farrington's college counselor says Tomimbang's generosity is much-appreciated.

"It's always wonderful when a Farrington alum like Emme comes back to support our students," he says. "We have so many deserving students who can benefit from the example and the help of those who have become successful with a Farrington education."

Other alumni have given back to the school by supporting the Farrington Alumni and Community Foundation (FACF) which provides scholarships for students. Since its founding in 1975, over 2,000 people have joined FACF, making it Hawaii's largest public school alumni group. Its current president is David Jeong, a member of the Class of 1953.

Names and faces may change over the years, but as long as Farrington is around, it will continue to produce students who will serve the community the Farrington Way—with Graciousness, Objectivity, Valor and Spirit (GOVS).

Perhaps Thompson says it best: "I always talk about being from Farrington and how proud I am of our school. But I believe financial success is not the only thing that's important. It's also about being a community contributor and participant. It's about being a well-rounded individual, having a healthy mental attitude and setting the example of integrity." ■

city, combat injustice, and help improve livelihoods," Roberts said.

The WDR 2011 cities track practical programs at the national level to link rapid confidence-building to longer-term institutional transformation, among which include providing support for community-based programs for preventing violence and offering access to local justice and dispute resolution systems in insecure areas. (www.phlstar.com) ■

(cont. from page 3; NO TIME ... )

ings do not leak during a downpour. Generators need to be tested before the onset of the monsoons, and they must have sufficient power to provide comfortable ventilation at the airport during blackouts. Drainage systems should also be checked to prevent flooding at the tarmac.

All these measures are known to concerned authorities. Last Saturday's flooding was a reminder that there's no excuse to be unprepared, and there's no time to waste.

(www.phlstar.com) ■

(cont. from page 1; PALACE ... )

being compromised and their human indicators stagnant.

Internationally, no low-income fragile or conflict-affected country has yet to achieve a single Millennium Development Goal, the report further pointed out.

Roberts said while there is no one-size-fits-all solutions to end political and criminal violence in

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# HAWAII-FILIPINO NEWS

## Neighborhood Board Holding 2011 Election

**THE CITY IS WORKING WITH EVERYONE COUNTS, INC.**—a world leader in transparent, secure, and accessible elections—to deliver internet and telephone voting solutions for the 2011 Neighborhood Board Elections.

At stake are 439 seats on Oahu's 33 Neighborhood Boards, whose volunteer members hold monthly meetings and serve as advisors on community concerns. Elected to two-year terms, neigh-

borhood board members are some of the most diverse individuals to serve in government.

Everyone Counts, Inc. mailed individual passcodes to registered voters. The secure passcodes were mailed around May 2, 2011. The election opened May 2 at 12 am and will remain accessible until May 20 until 11:59 pm. Digital ballots can be accessed through the Neighborhood Commission's website at [www.honolulu.gov/nco](http://www.honolulu.gov/nco).

Voters without internet access have additional options to cast their ballots. There will be two voting sites with online access Mondays through Thursdays during the election from 8 am to 4:30 pm at the following locations:

- Kapolei Hale Conference Room D, 1000 Ulu'ohi'a Street, Kapolei, HI 96707
- Honolulu Hale Courtyard, 530 South King Street, Honolulu, HI 96813

Voters must bring their passcodes with them to the voting site. As an option, voters may vote via telephone by calling toll-free 888-907-6717. If using either the online or telephone method, voters will need their passcode and the last four digits of their social security number to vote. The online and telephone channels work together and only allow one vote per eligible voter.

The new digital process offers

all voters convenient, greater access to ballots. Through the use of military-grade encryption technology, votes are securely cast and counted. The new method will also save taxpayers and voters more money, according to Lori Steele, Chairman and CEO of Everyone Counts, Inc.

For more information on the election, please contact the City's Neighborhood Commission at 768-3717. ■

### HEADLINES (CONT.)

(cont. from page 4; CACHOLA...)

has received for her medical excellence and contributions to the poor and needy. But she admits the Chamber's award is especially gratifying.

"The award makes me feel very special because being a woman and an immigrant, I have always worked very hard to prove myself," she says. "In a way, this means that I have really arrived. Each award is very important to me because every award validates my struggle to succeed and to give back to the community in gratitude for all the blessings my family and I have received."

#### HUMBLE BEGINNINGS

The road to Dr. Cachola's success was paved with both challenges and triumphs. Upon completing her medical residency, she went into private practice in 1974. But in order for her practice to survive, she joined offices with fellow Filipino physician Dr. Rodrigo Bristol. For the next five years, they operated a clinic located on Hough-talling Street.

Dr. Cachola then shared a clinic with another Filipino doctor—Dr. Fortunato Elizaga—at the former St. Francis Hospital on Liliha Street. After another five years, she and her husband Romy, who at that time was a member of the State House of Representatives, found an old building located at the corner of North King and Kalihii streets. It was about to be demolished but the couple purchased the building, renovated it and turned it into the Cachola Medical Clinic.

She is also the driving force behind a community health fair in Kalihii that for the past 27 years has provided free medical services and screenings for the homeless, immigrants, very poor and medically-uninsured. The event is still going strong and will be held in August or September 2011.

Today, Dr. Cachola's medical  
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# HAWAII-FILIPINO NEWS

## Consulate Announces Special Tour to the Philippines

**IF YOU'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO VISIT THE PHILIPPINES** but have not yet taken the plunge, this summer may be the time to do so. Officials at the Philippine Consulate General of Honolulu have announced a special tour to the Philippines from July 17-23, 2011.

Dubbed the Sixth Annual Ambassadors, Consuls General and Tourism Directors Tour, participants will visit select attractions in the Philippines and experience the country's top destinations.

The tour includes a 3-4 night stay at the beautiful Dusit Thani Hotel, a tour of metro Manila and the choice of a day visit to nearby destinations like Corregidor, Batangas, Cavite, Pampanga, Bulacan, Laguna, Quezon and Rizal. A 3-night optional extension can also be organized to Boracay, Palawan, Cebu, Bohol, Cagayan de Oro/Camiguin, Bicol and Ilocos.

The highlight of the tour will be a visit to the presidential palace and an audience with Philippine

President Benigno Aquino III. A lunch and photo-op with the president is scheduled.

The cost of the basic tour is \$1,300 via Philippine Airlines and \$1,357 via Hawaiian Airlines (plus airport tax and fuel surcharge). The deadline to register is June 3, 2011. For inquiries, please call the Philippine Consulate at 595-6316 ext. 241.

The tour is a joint project of Philippine Foreign Posts in the U.S. and Canada, in cooperation with the Philippines' Department of Tourism and the Department of Trade & Industry. ■



## Waipahu Students Paint Mural for Adopt-a-School Day

**STUDENTS FROM WAIPAHU HIGH SCHOOL PAINTED** a community mural on May 1, 2011 as part of the 3rd Annual Hawaii Jaycees Adopt-a-School Day. Sponsored by Parsons Brinckerhoff, the goal of the service project was to stamp out graffiti in certain problem areas near the school.

"It's been shown that murals in the community prevent graffiti from spreading and reduces urban blight," says Sean Edgeman of Parsons, who served as head artist for the project. "We worked with the kids over the last several months and asked them to incorporate elements of the Waipahu community."

Parsons—a local and global engineering firm that focuses on infrastructure projects that serve the needs of a community—adopted the school last year and assisted its students in planning, designing and painting the mural.

The mural spans 120 feet long, 9 feet high and is situated on the mauka side of the intersection of Farrington Highway and Kahuatili Street. The mural consists of several design elements, including "Waipahu" spelled out in bold, block

lettering. Also used were nostalgic images such as plantation workers, the Waianae Mountain Range, the iconic Waipahu Sugar Mill, images from the future and caricatures of students from Waipahu—all juxtaposed together.

"I'm glad to see this mural in front of our school," says Waipahu High School teacher Joy Takara. "The wall's location in proximity to the school and the community make it the unofficial entrance into Waipahu."

The design and painting of the mural was an overwhelming success thanks to local mural artists and generous donors like Sherwin Williams Paint Company, which donated paint and supplies.

Previously, the area was rife with graffiti and a favorite place for taggers due to the large walls fronting Waipahu High School. But not anymore, says Ryan Ng of Parsons, who also served as the project coordinator.

"People gave up their free time to make Waipahu a nice place to live and created an iconic landmark that everyone can be proud of," he says.

"I'd like to thank the sponsors, volunteers and Waipahu High School for partnering with us on this project." ■

## HEADLINES (CONT.)

(cont. from page 5; CACHOLA...)

practice is a thriving business with five full-time and part-time employees. Her daughter, Dr. Lyla Cachola-Prather, recently joined her practice.

Like other businesses, the Cachola Medical Clinic has faced its share of challenges, namely the economic downturn, but continues to excel through innovation, expansion, consistent financial performance and a commitment to its patients.

"The biggest obstacles at present are trying to do the business afloat despite the bad economy," she says. "We try to cut back expenses and work harder. Running a business is difficult, but having the right priorities helps."

For this remarkable physician, these priorities are God, family, country and community. In that exact order.

"Treating patients like family and providing excellent, caring service to patients keep me focused on my goal of being the best doctor I can possibly be," she says. "I thank God for all the blessings, my family for all their support and my patients for their trust in me."

She encourages anyone who may be struggling to never give up hope.

"Believe in yourself, pray hard, work hard, persevere, follow the Golden Rule and you will surely

succeed. To those who are already successful, share your blessings and they will be multiplied," she says.

### YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS

In a dramatic tie, the Chamber presented the 2011 Young Filipino Entrepreneur of the Year award to two women. The first is Cheryl R. Cudiamat, president and chief executive officer of Keiki Care Center of Hawaii, Inc. She started her business in 2008 after the abrupt closure of St. Timothy's Children's Center left about 100 children and their parents without day care.

Cudiamat launched Keiki Care Center of Hawaii with an enrollment of only 17 children. Under her leadership, enrollment grew and now the center is generating positive income. In less than two years, Cudiamat expects all startup costs for

business and personal loans will be completely covered.

The second awardee is Desira Aginaldo-Helmsan, co-founder and chief executive officer of OneSource, Inc. and vice president of a OneSource Insurance Inc.—Hawaii's premiere professional employer organization and small business insurance agency, respectively.

OneSource, Inc. specializes in providing companies with versatile management solutions including accounting, human resources and payroll with unsurpassed client service, attention to detail and expert knowledge. OneSource Insurance, Inc. provides employers with insurance options such as workers' compensation and liability, commercial and personal life insurance, as well as group medical plans and employee benefits. ■

## Nominees for Filipino Entrepreneur of the Year

The following individuals were nominated for the 2011 Filipino Entrepreneur of the Year Award, given by the Filipino Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii:

• **RHODA YABES ALVAREZ, Attorney at Law.** The Law Office of Rhoda Yabes Alvarez provides clients with a fresh legal perspective in a wide range of legal matters and has a particular wealth of experience in assisting clients with

legal issues in the Philippines. Alvarez also represents families and businesses needing assistance in immigration law, family law, commercial/business law and Philippine legal issues. She also specializes in Philippine and American law as they intertwine in the Filipino-American migrant experience. She is counsel to businesses and non-profit organizations, as well as to individuals in both Hawaii and in the Philippines.

• **BURT J. DEPERALTA, owner and president of Integrity Office Equipment.** His company specializes in providing local businesses with office equipment sales, supplies and service. Machine sales and service includes most brands of laser printers and copiers. DePeralta also supplies customers with office system furniture, including desktop cu-

bicle workstations and floor-to-ceiling office walls. His clients total over 700, from small businesses such as dentist offices and law firms to larger corporations like the federal government, Central Pacific Bank and other well-known financial institutions.

• **ROSALINDA STACY ROSACIA MALALIS, president and chief executive officer of Nightingale Case Management, Inc.** Her company provides adult foster care services to long-term nursing home patients in a home-based community environment through the State Department of Human Services. As a case management agency, Nightingale Case Management's function is to place long-term care patients in adult homes on Oahu. The company then monitors the patients' care in conjunc-

tion with their caregivers, physician, other healthcare professionals and their families to ensure that patients are safe and well-cared for.

• **RAUL PEREZ, owner of ARMAC Printing, LLC.** He is well-known among local Catholic churches as his company is the main printer of weekly Catholic church bulletins. Perez provides the service free of charge in exchange for advertising sales from businesses that advertise in the bulletins. Their services also include postal service, signs and trophies.

• **JUDY A. TABIOS, owner of Mechanical Trends, a small business specialty contractor for fire protection and plumbing.** His company is the only Filipino-owned fire protection contractor licensed by the State Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and accredited by the Honolulu Fire Prevention Bureau for inspection and testing of fire sprinkler systems and reticulation. Tabios protects clients' lives and livelihoods by ensuring that their businesses' and homes' existing fire sprinkler installations are in compliance with the latest codes and ordinances. ■

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COMMENTARY

# Hawaii FilAm Finds Something in Common with Catherine & Flies to England for Her Wedding?



by Atty. Emmanuel Samonte TIPON

“Did you receive an invitation to the royal wedding?” inquired an attractive stewardess with whom I was flirting in the galley when I told her this was my fourth trip to England and I was going for the royal wedding. “I haven’t received it yet but I’m going anyway because I have one thing in common with Catherine,” I replied. “What’s that?” she pursued with aroused curiosity. “We’re both commoners.”

There’s a whole of difference between not receiving an invitation and not being invited. In the former you might have an invitation but it’s still in the mail. In the latter, you were considered and passed up. Obama was not invited but the King of Tonga was.

I had no serious plan of going to the royal wedding since I had a trial scheduled for the same day – Friday, April 29. But I half jokingly told the judge Monday that week that I was considering going to the royal wedding if he would postpone the trial set for the 29th. “My client is not ready anyway,” I added for good measure. He smiled and granted continuance. Under immigration rules, continuance is not generally granted except for “good cause”.

Much has been said and much more is better left unsaid about the most popular royal couple in this generation – Prince William and Catherine Middleton (nicknamed “Kate” which she hates, like I hate the nickname “AT”). Will (as he is fondly called), being the eldest son of Prince Charles and Diana Spencer would succeed to the English throne if Queen Elizabeth ever dies (which she has not shown any sign of doing even at age 85) and Charles becomes king and later dies. Will’s popularity is such that a number of people have suggested that Charles abdicate so that Will would be next in line to the throne. These ignoramuses’ suggestion loses sight of the fact that Charles cannot abdicate what he does not have, namely the throne. And if Charles relinquishes his right to the succession, the next in line to the throne would be his brother, not his son Will.

Will and Catherine met in school. Some say that Catherine went to the same school so that she could meet Will. She succeeded. He was mesmerized by her seductive figure in a gossamer outfit. They set up house and lived

together for more than 7 years. Neither his grandmother the queen nor his father could do anything to stop this live-in relationship. They had a responsible relationship because they begot no illegitimate child, unlike most couples similarly situated. There is speculation that they cannot have children, thus they have a heavy burden within the next nine months to produce one. Catherine’s father reportedly told her that Will would never marry her. When Will went to Catherine’s father to ask for her hand in marriage, he quietly ate his words. (When I went to ask my current beloved’s father for her hand in marriage, he told me that he did not believe that I would marry his daughter with whom I had had a relationship for more than seven years). There’s something about seven years that makes some men want to legalize a relationship. Seven year itch?

Catherine is much more beautiful in person than in pictures or on television. She radiates an elegant beauty ala Grace Kelly, rather than a dazzling one like Elizabeth Taylor. Almost every square inch of her body has been analyzed from her bosom to her brains. Significantly, none appears to have analyzed her legs. So I will do so. Her legs pale in comparison to Sarah Palin’s.

**CATHERINE WILL NOT OBEY WILL?**

The traditional marriage vow says “love, honor, and obey.” Will followed tradition. However, Catherine only said “love and honor” but refused to say “obey” leading to speculation that she will be the “big boss” in their household. Voila, the foundation for “Catherine the Great” has been laid.

It has been reported that the couple signed a prenuptial agreement providing that if Catherine divorces or leaves Will, she leaves the children (if any) with him.

I was at Westminster Abbey for the wedding – outside, not inside, since I never received my invitation. The previous evening I reconnoitered the area and found people in 40 degree weather camping in tents to ensure a vantage point for viewing the ceremonies. The scene was reminiscent of the tent people camped in Honolulu’s Carlisleville (in Kakaako, Aala Park, Nanakuli, etc.) which the Honorable Mayor Peter Carlisle (whom I financially supported) appears to have done nothing to eradicate even though an international meeting – APEC – will be held in Hawaii pretty soon. At least in Westminster, the gov-

ernment provided plenty of portable potties for the happy campers. There are none for the unhappy campers in Carlisleville.

When the ceremony started I walked the mile to Buckingham Palace which normally would take about 15 minutes. But there were so many people that one could not walk but only jostle. So, instead of taking the main roads I took the side streets and reached Buckingham long before the Westminster ceremony was over. I was able to position myself where I could see the Buckingham Palace balcony where the expected royal wedding kiss would be made (performed? enacted?). A mini squadron of World War II warplanes flying low alongside Buckingham Palace was the signal for the royal family to appear in the balcony. When the newlyweds appeared, there were thunderous shouts of joy and intense clapping like I had never witnessed before. Everyone was waving a flag, a banner, a handkerchief, anything waveable. People were jumping up and down like on a popo sick. Cameras were clicking constantly.

The kiss was the highlight of the balcony appearance. After the newlyweds had kissed, the people wanted them to kiss again, chanting “kiss, kiss, one more kiss.” Will asked: “Shall we do it Kate?” She responded with a kiss.

**HONEYMOON**

There was talk that the couple would not leave Britain immediately for their honeymoon, but might go to Windsor Castle, near Heathrow Airport (England’s premier international airport) closer than the White House is to Reagan National Airport. I took a bus for Windsor. They were not there. Neither was the queen who usually spends her week-ends there. But when you are being living in marital bliss

without the benefit of marriage for over 7 years, do you really need to have a honeymoon?

**BRITAIN NEEDED THIS WEDDING**

The British really needed a wedding like this to lift their spirits. They are mired in economic woes, widespread unemployment, a tsunami of new immigrants both legal and illegal, and high gas prices – about \$10.62 a gallon.

After the wedding Londoners flocked to the pubs to have a drink. Some places gave the first drink free. The taverns were so full that people were drinking in the streets.

They had a 4-day bank holiday. People who were made to work were paid double. A tourist welcomed at the airport wished there would be a royal wedding everyday. Visitors arriving within 24 hours of the wedding were given the red carpet treatment and invited to sign the Royal Guestbook that would be presented to the royal couple. I wrote: “To Catherine. From one commoner to

another, may you and I succeed in achieving our noble goals. God bless you and William.”

Everywhere I went, there were Filipinos – in London and in the countryside like Windsor Castle, Oxford, and even at Stonehenge. I had pictures with some of them and tape recorded interviews with them which I will play on my radio show at KNDD. They were all happy and employed. They did not seem to mind the cold and damp weather. Discrimination? They did not feel targeted. “Have you thought of immigrating to America?” I asked. “No thanks,” was their unanimous reply. ■

(ATTY. TIPON has a Master of Laws degree from Yale Law School and a Bachelor of Laws degree from the University of the Philippines. Office: 800 Bethel St., Suite 402, Honolulu, HI 96813. Tel: (808) 225-2645. E-Mail: filam-law@yahoo.com. Website: www.MilitaryandCriminalLaw.com, and www.ImmigrationServicesUSA.com. Listen to the most witty, interesting, and informative radio program in Hawaii on KNDD at 1270. AM dial every Thursday at 7:30 a.m., rebroadcast at www.itlko.com.)

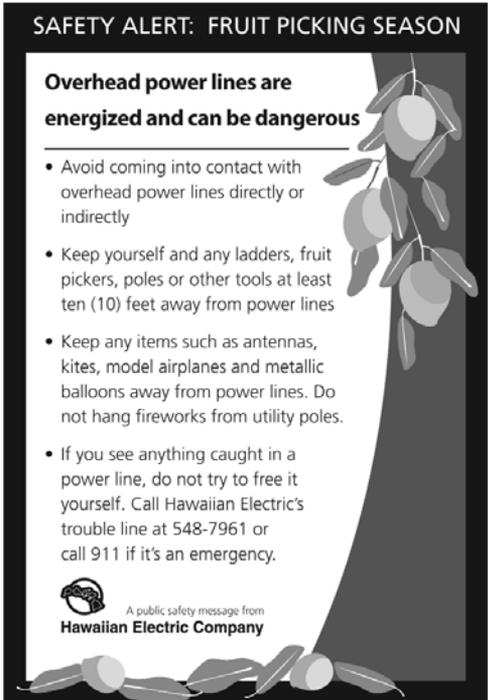
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## WHAT'S COOKING?

## Food for the Blessed

FOOD FOR THOUGHT  
by Millie & Karla REYES

**M**ILLIE: Some of my most memorable moments as a caterer were meeting or seeing VIPs and celebrities up close. These include not only local personalities but also foreign heads of states like former President George W. Bush, the late Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, Chinese Premier Li Hsien-nien, former World Bank president Robert S. McNamara, movie celebrities like George Hamilton and Brooke Shields, to name a few. But the one most precious not only in my memory bank but also in my heart was catering for the Blessed Pope John Paul II. I was privileged to have been chosen to cater for His Holiness when he came to Manila in 1981 and then again in 1995.

Actually, during the first visit in 1981, we were requested by His Eminence, the late Jaime Cardinal Sin, to provide round-the-clock food service for His Holiness. We designated a chef and a waiter to prepare all his meals. We were, naturally,

briefed and given practical tips about his food and beverage preferences as well as specific protocol guidelines and concerns.

We learned, for instance, that the Pope liked to eat steak, seafood, and pasta and this was greatly considered when we concocted dishes for him. One such dish was named Steak Pope John Paul II and was served at a dinner in his honor, graciously hosted by the late Cardinal Sin at the sprawling Villa San Miguel in Mandaluyong.

The dish was similar to a surf and turf concept featuring food he liked to eat. The dinner was not lavish or ostentatious but simple and elegant, certainly fit for a Pope!

Invited guests included then President Ferdinand E. Marcos and First Lady Imelda R. Marcos, distinguished members of the diplomatic corps and honored bishops. Security was very tight and some areas were restricted so it was not easy to roam around. Although I knew Cardinal Sin's villa by heart, I respected the security measures imposed and willingly obliged, confining myself to the kitchen area while my mom and

sisters all waited in the reception area to welcome His Holiness.

I comforted myself with the thought that I would find a way to see His Holiness up close sometime during the dinner. Lo and behold! When the Pope arrived accompanied by Cardinal Sin, his vehicle proceeded to the back door by the kitchen instead of the main entrance. I was then by the hallway and although I was greatly stunned, I managed to collect myself and bowed and genuflected as he passed. Cardinal Sin stopped to introduce me and His Holiness extended his hand and I was able to kiss his ring. Cardinal Sin told His Holiness that I was the caterer and he gave me a blessing. I cannot forget the magnificent glow, not just a halo, but a radiant, luminous, shining, effervescent glow emanating from His Holiness and suddenly, I felt tears of joy running down my cheeks. I felt so blessed at that moment and although my mom and sisters were lucky to have had a photographer capture the moment when they met His Holiness, mine was forever etched in my heart. Even as I write this, I get goosebumps just recalling that memorable event in my life.

You can just imagine how thrilled and doubly blessed I felt when The Plaza was again chosen to cater for His Holiness the second time he came to visit in 1995. It was a simple luncheon held at the Arzobispado in Intramuros exclusively for some 150 honored bishops. Like the first encounter, I once again noticed that magnificent radiant super glow and that smile I will never, ever forget.

**KARLA:** On both occasions that Pope John Paul II visited Manila, I was not able to meet him in person. Mom would often tell me stories of how she felt when she met him, how preparations for his visits would be and even what he ate during these occasions. Even our waiters remember serving for him, and our chefs as to what they had prepared for his meals. The closest I probably got to him as a kid was a picture of my *lola* and the Pope



Roast Chicken Emilia, another Plaza original served at a luncheon in honor of His Holiness during his second visit to Manila in 1995, is cooked with tomato concasse with red wine gravy, Parmesan and rosemary, and served with homemade fettuccini with truffle oil.

hanging on our wall. I've always wondered how it would have been if I were there, until finally, in 2003, I was in Avila, Spain to learn gastronomy and the Spanish language. It was also the summer of the canonization of St. Pedro Poveda. Together with two of my friends, Nicole Ignacio and Carla Concepcion, we decided to go on our journey to Madrid. We took the bus, which was around an hour and a half, then the train to get to where the ceremony would be. But we got caught up in the train station and got lost. By the time we re-surfaced to the street level, the Mass was over and right in front of us was this huge screen with a video feed of the Pope in his little car waving goodbye, and I started crying.

So when I learned of Pope John Paul II's beatification, one step to becoming a saint, I immediately researched on the dishes The Plaza had concocted for him and recreated them. I intend to re-introduce these dishes as part of the menu repertoire we offer for caterings. These are classics that are part of

the rich history of The Plaza, now in its 45th year.

One of our cooks, chef Gary helped me re-create these dishes. His father, the late chef Rudy Dimaculangan, was one of the lead chefs during the Pope's first visit. Gary was a young kitchen helper in 1995 during the Pope's second visit and still recalls the menu and details of the event.

The dish served at the dinner



Karla Reyes recreates an original Plaza dish concocted for His Holiness Pope John Paul II when he came to Manila in 1981 consisting of grilled fillet of beef topped with a giant prawn and served with Sauce Bearnaise, fresh asparagus, cherry tomatoes with basil oil and roasted marble potatoes

hosted by Cardinal Sin in 1981 was called Steak Pope John Paul II and consisted of 200 grams beef tenderloin seasoned and grilled to perfection, then topped with a giant freshly steamed coral prawn, served with a special sauce similar to Sauce Bearnaise and garnished with fresh asparagus, cherry tomatoes, and roasted marble potatoes.

Another dish, which was served on the second visit of Pope John Paul II was called Braised Chicken Emilia, which was named after the Pope's mother Emilia Kaczorowska Wojtyla. The chicken is braised in Italian red wine, tomato concasse, Parmesan, and rosemary leaves, and served with homemade fettuccini with truffle oil.

We treasure these dishes fondly as we treasure memories of having served the Blessed Pope John Paul III ([www.philstar.com](http://www.philstar.com)) ■



Blessed John Paul II during his 1995 visit with the late Imelda Albano Reyes



Michael A. McMann, M.D.

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**■ HAWAII-FILIPINO NEWS****Fil Chamber of Commerce  
Honors Top Fil-Am Students**

by Maita MILALLOS

THREE OUTSTANDING FILIPINO-AMERICAN SCHOLARS were recognized by the Filipino Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii and the Filipino Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii Foundation during its 22nd gala event last April 29, 2011 at the Hale Koa Hotel. The annual affair celebrates the academic achievements of high school seniors.

Moanalua High School's Anna Karvina Pidong was awarded a \$4,000 scholarship from the Renato and Maria A.F. Etrata Foundation. Pidong holds a 4.10 grade point and a standardized test score of 88 percent for the American College Test (ACT). She intends to pursue a degree in Business Administration at the University of Oregon. Pidong considers her scholarship a blessing from God and is honored by the recognition accorded by the Filipino community. She is the daughter of Melvin and Janelyn Pidong.

Daniella Reyes and Joyce Iwashita each received a \$3,000 scholarship from the Filipino Chamber Foundation. Reyes attends Leilehua High School and currently holds a 4.04 GPA and a standardized test score of 97 percent for the ACT. She aims to be a science journalist and plans to study English and biology at Stanford University. Reyes views her scholarship as good way to start college, particularly in hard economic times. She is the daughter of Howard and Criselda Reyes.

Iwashita is from Hilo High School. She holds a 4.14 GPA and a standardized test score of 97 percent for the ACT. She plans to attend Lewis and Clark College and major in international relations. Iwashita is the daughter of Bryan and Ayumi Iwashita.

This year's scholars were selected from among 40 applicants using a standardized



L-R (Lyne Gutierrez, Chairperson of the Scholarship Committee, Criselda and Daniella Reyes, Anna Pidong with her parents Janelyn and Melvin Pidong)

scoring sheet. The judges based their decision on the following criteria: grade point average (50 points); standardized test scores (25 points); activities, awards and honors (10 points); and essay reflecting the Filipino Chamber's mission statement (15 points). Documents such as high school transcripts and an acceptance letter to a four-year college or university were also required.

The judges were retired UH-Manoa professor Dr. Belinda Aquino, former State Rep. Dr. Lyla Berg and Leeward Community College professor Dr. Raymond Liongson. Tony Sagayadoro of the State Department of Labor and Industrial Relations was the official tabulator.

The Chamber's Scholarship Program is funded from proceeds raised by the 17th Annual Scholarship Golf Tournament, which is co-sponsored by The Renato and Maria A.F. Etrata Foundation. Since 1995, the tournament has raised over \$212,000 in scholarships which were awarded to 104 outstanding high school seniors.

Previous scholarship recipients have enrolled in such prestigious universities as Harvard, Stanford, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Dartmouth, USC, Notre Dame, Pennsylvania, UCLA, Washington and UH-Manoa. ■

**Consulate Holds Outreach  
Mission in Wailuku**

THE PHILIPPINE CONSULATE GENERAL OF HONOLULU will hold a Consular Outreach Mission in Wailuku, Maui from May 27-28, 2011. The following is the outreach schedule:

**27 MAY 2011, FRIDAY**

Time: 8 AM – 1 PM

Venue: Maui Immigrant Center Office

2200 Main St.  
Suite 601  
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793  
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(808) 270-7131

Time: 4 – 8 PM

Venue: War Memorial Soccer Field

700 Halia Nakoia St # 2,  
Wailuku, HI  
c/o Ms. Cecile Piro  
(808) 871-6251**28 May 2011, Saturday**

Time: 8 AM – 5 PM

Venue: War Memorial Soccer Field

700 Halia Nakoia St # 2,  
Wailuku, HI  
c/o Ms. Cecile Piro  
(808) 871-6251

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For more information, please contact Consulate staffer Virgilio Pacio at 595-6316 ext. 233, 239 or 243. Those interested in the consular services are advised to visit [www.philippineconsulatehonolulu.com](http://www.philippineconsulatehonolulu.com) or [www.philippineshonolulu.org](http://www.philippineshonolulu.org) for more details on consular requirements. Those wishing to contact the Consulate via email may do so at: [honolulu@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:honolulu@hawaii.rr.com). ■

# PHILIPPINE NEWS

## Erap Supports VFA Review

by **Jose Rodol CLAPANO**  
Wednesday, May 11, 2011

MANILA, Philippines - **FORMER PRESIDENT JOSEPH ESTRADA** favors a review of the Visiting Forces Agreement (VFA).

In a radio interview with former ambassador Ernesto Maceda, Estrada said it would be timely to review the VFA in light of the US military action in Pakistan that killed Osama bin Laden.

Estrada said he objects to the manner by which the US raided a mansion housing bin Laden in Pakistan.

"We have the United Nations," he said. "The UN was created for all countries to follow the UN's rules and regulations. I think the Americans are not exempted from the rule."

Estrada said the Americans have not religiously followed the VFA's provisions since it was ratified during his administration.

Estrada said that he is against the return of US military bases in the country.

"I strongly oppose that (return of US military bases)," he said. "We can no longer say that we have sovereignty as an independent country or we have true independence if we will allow the return of the US military bases."



Former President Joseph Estrada

Estrada said it appears that the VFA is being used to facilitate the permanent stay of the US military in the country.

"The Americans also have a battalion of US Marines in Zamboanga City who almost stay there permanently. They did not leave Mindanao and it is a clear violation of the VFA," he said.

Estrada said that the agenda of the US became clearer when the Arroyo administration almost successfully implemented the Memorandum of Agreement on Ancestral Domain (MOA-AD) with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF), had the Supreme Court not declared it unconstitutional.

"We have the root of the agenda of the US before (President) Arroyo stepped down when the Memorandum of Agreement on

Ancestral Domain was signed," he said.

"We are just lucky that the Supreme Court declared the MOA-AD as unconstitutional. Had it not been for that, we would already lose the nine provinces covered by the MOA-AD which will become the Bangsamoro Republic.

"I can say that is the biggest sin committed by the previous administration to the Filipino people because that is treason. It is treason when you allow (anyone) to divide our country. Our country is too small already to divide it."

Estrada said the Arroyo administration committed a lot of mistakes and sins against the Filipino people.

"It bowed to the dictates of the US and that is one of the reasons why the Filipino people are now suffering from poverty and hunger," he said.

"The US does not care about our interest as long as their interests are protected."

Estrada was one of 12 senators who voted for the abrogation of the US Military Bases Agreement (MBA) in 1991.

Critics claim that US troops are using the VFA to justify their almost permanent stay in Mindanao, specifically in Zamboanga City. ([www.philstar.com](http://www.philstar.com))



2003 Oakwood Mutineers

## Mutineers Granted Amnesty in Philippines

by **Rudy SANTOS**  
Wednesday, May 11, 2011

MANILA, Philippines (Xinhua) - **THE DEFENSE DEPARTMENT HAS GRANTED AMNESTY TO 283 SOLDIERS**

who joined in at least three failed uprisings during the time of former President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, a senior government official said today.

Defense Secretary Voltaire Gazmin said 285 men in uniform, including civilians, applied for the amnesty following the issuance of President Benigno S. Aquino III of Proclamation No. 75 on Nov. 24, 2010, granting amnesty to those who participated in the Oakwood, Marine Stand-Off and Manila Penin-

sula incidents.

But of those who applied, he said 283 were granted amnesty and took their Oath of Allegiance in three batches, the last of which was on Tuesday.

"Two applications were denied however, the first applicant due to failure to substantiate actual participation in the incident as claimed, while the other applicant did not file the application in person, which is contrary to the Committee's rules and procedures as promulgated in the DND Committee Circular 1," Gazmin explained.

Of the 283 grantees, 84 were officers, 192 enlisted personnel, one from the Philippine National Police and six civilians. ([www.philstar.com](http://www.philstar.com))

## De Lima Nominated to Replace Mercii

by **Edy PUNAY**  
Thursday, May 12, 2011

MANILA, Philippines - **JUSTICE SECRETARY LEILA DE LIMA WAS NOMINATED FOR OMBUDSMAN** before the Judicial and Bar Council (JBC) yesterday.

In a letter to the JBC, Assistant State Prosecutor Romeo Senson said he nominated De Lima because she is most qualified to head the anti-graft agency.

"Secretary De Lima has shown her incorruptible stand, integrity beyond reproach and character par excellence in serving the public," he said.

Last week, De Lima announced she is not interested in the post of ombudsman.

"I feel it will be more fulfilling for me to (stay here)," she said. "I will decline any nomination."

De Lima said she wants to stay in the Department of Justice (DOJ) where she feels she could be more effective.

"I've been here (in DOJ) for just less than a year," she said.

"I'm just starting. There are many more problems, challenges to face. The mandate of the DOJ is broader, so I feel I can do a lot more."

Under JBC rules, a nomination for a vacancy would only be accepted if the nominee agrees.

The eight-man council officially opened applications and nominations for the ombudsman post through an announcement

published in The STAR last Friday.

It gave interested parties a non-exemptible period of 10 days or until May 16 to submit applications and nominations.

It already received a nomination for lawyer Ernesto Francisco Jr. from former Pangasinan governor Eddie Panillo.

Francisco, who was among the complainants who had filed graft charges against

former first gentleman Jose Miguel Arroyo in connection to the controversial national broadband network deal with Chinese firm ZTE, accepted the nomination.

The JBC is expected to receive a nomination for Dean Jose Manuel Diokno, son of the late senator Jose Diokno, today.

He will be endorsed by the Free Legal Assistance Group.

The JBC is set to make public the official list of nominees for ombudsman after receiving all nominees and applicants and upon initial screening.

Republic Act 677, the Ombudsman Act, requires the ombudsman to be a natural born citizen of the Philippines, at least 40 years old, of recognized probity and independence, member of the Philippine Bar, and must not have been a candidate for any elective national or local office in the immediately preceding election.

The ombudsman, who has a fixed term of seven years, must also have at least 10 years' experience as a judge or law practitioner in the Philippines. ([www.philstar.com](http://www.philstar.com))



DOJ Sec. Leila De Lima

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# PHILIPPINE NEWS

## Villar Richest Senator; Trillanes Poorest

by Christina MENDEZ  
Thursday, May 12, 2011

MANILA, Philippines - **MANUEL VILLAR JR. REMAINED THE RICHEST SENATOR**, but his declared assets were reduced from close to P1 billion to about P725 million in the election year of 2010.

His statement of assets, liabilities and net worth (SALN) showed Villar's assets totaled P725,221,964 with no liabilities.

Antonio Trillanes IV replaced Joker Arroyo in the list as the poorest senator.

Trillanes listed assets totaling P3,836 million, which included a 120-square meter residential lot in General Trias, Cavite; a 308-square meter lot in Antipolo; and a residential condominium in Parañaque worth P3 million.

He had P3,880 million in loans as liabilities.

Villar listed among his properties about six residential lots in Las Piñas, Muntinlupa and Cavite, totaling P4.58 million (acquisition cost), as well as investments in stocks worth P147 million and other real



Sen. Manny Villar, richest and Sen. Antonio Trillanes IV, poorest

and personal properties totaling P572.8 million.

The Villar couple, once dubbed as the richest lawmakers in the country, also listed interests in Fine Properties, Inc., M.B. Villar Co, Inc., Macys Inc, Mooncrest Property, Hollinger Holdings, which they acquired on various dates from 1982 to 2010.

Villar filed the joint SALN with his wife, former lawmaker Cynthia Villar.

She was replaced by her son, Mark, as Las Piñas representative in 2010.

The Villars' assets seemed to

have dwindled because their assets in 2009 were pegged at P947,883,619.

In 2009, Forbes Magazine listed Villar as the largest shareholder in property firms Vista Land and Lifesaves and Polar Property Holdings.

He was the Philippines' ninth richest in 2009.

Villar's net worth then was \$530 million, Forbes said.

Ralph Recto is the second richest senator with P418,523,601.13 in assets.

He and his wife, Batangas Gov. Vilma Santos, listed cash in bank

and marketable securities totaling about P221 million, P23 million in personal effects, P1.925 million in club shares, P110,866,592.81 in investment shares and P19.55 million in motor vehicles as part of their personal and other assets.

The couple has liabilities of P32 million, which included taxes payable and notes payable to the Bureau of Internal Revenue, BPI Family Bank and Metrobank.

Ferdinand Marcos Jr. has a total net worth of P311.5 million with no liabilities.

In their joint SALN, Marcos and his wife, Louise, listed their business interests with Augustus Management Inc., a management company based in Laog, Ilocos Norte; an investment and holding company NIV Property Holding Co, Inc.

Louise Marcos declared that she has business interests and financial connections with Marcos, Ochoa, Serapio and Tan (MOST) law firm, where she is a partner.

Among the 15 richest senators are: Ramon Revilla Jr., who was number four after he listed assets of P125.75 million; followed by Senate

President Juan Ponce Enrile with P116.07 million; Senate President Pro-Tempore Jinggoy Estrada with P93.56 million; Sergio Osmeña III, P82.3 million; Pia Cayetano, P76.775 million; Teofisto Guingona III, P73.97 million; and Eduardo Angara, P70.09 million.

Majority Leader Vicente Sotto III had P48.96 million; Loren Legarda, P45.545 million; Juan Miguel Zubiri, PP41.3 million; Franklin Drilon, P33.442 million; Panfilo Lacson, P24.729 million; Gregorio Honasan, P19.354 million; Lito Lapid, P18.9 million; Alan Peter Cayetano, P15.9 million; Francis Pangilinan, P12.43 million; Joker Arroyo, P11.05 million; Francis Escudero, P8.032 million; and Trillanes, P3.83 million.

Pangilinan, who had a pre-nuptial agreement with wife Sharon Cuneta, listed among his assets agricultural properties in Marinduque and Pangasinan; shares of stocks with Manila Pearl Corp., Marbleland Mining and Development Corp.; Lockwell Builders, Inc.; and FRD Food and Spices; furniture, jewelry, books and journals, and transportation.

Pangilinan has liabilities and accounts payable totaling P2,632 million. (www.philstar.com) ■

## Vatican Announces Appointment of New Papal Nuncio to Phl

by Evelyn MACAIRAN  
Wednesday, May 11, 2011

MANILA, Philippines - **THE VATICAN ANNOUNCED YESTERDAY THE APPOINTMENT OF ITALIAN ARCHBISHOP** Giuseppe Pinto as the new Apostolic Nuncio to the Philippines.

CBCPNews, the official news service provider of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines (CBCP), reported that Archbishop Pinto would replace

Archbishop Edward Joseph Adams, who has been transferred to Greece.

Pinto's appointment was officially announced in Rome on May 10 at noon.

Pinto was born on May 26, 1952 and was ordained as a priest on April 1, 1978. He is a native of Bari, Italy.

The 58-year-old prelate holds a doctorate in Canon Law and is fluent in four languages – French, English and Spanish aside from his



Vatican City

native Italian.

Archbishop Pinto entered the

Diplomatic Service of the Holy See on May 1, 1984 and has served

successfully in Papua New Guinea, Argentina and the Secretariat of State in Vatican City.

He also served as apostolic nuncio in Senegal, Cape Verde, Mali and Guinea-Bissau, and has been assigned as apostolic delegate to Mauritania.

Prior to his current appointment, he was apostolic nuncio in Chile since 2007.

Archbishop Pinto will be the 16th in the line of apostolic delegates and apostolic nuncios to the Philippines. (www.philstar.com) ■

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## 'Bebeng' Exits Phl, Leaves 24 Dead

by Helen FLORES  
Thursday, May 12, 2011

MANILA, Philippines - **THE WEATHER BUREAU HAS REPORTED** that tropical storm "Bebeng" is out of the Philippine area of responsibility yesterday, but left 24 persons dead and more than P200-million worth of damage.

The National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) yesterday said Albay and Camarines Sur have been placed under a state of calamity due to heavy damage caused by the storm.

Nathaniel Servando, acting administrator of the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA), said Bebang exited the country at 8 a.m. yesterday and



Scavengers gather bamboo yesterday from fish cages in Manila Bay destroyed during the height of tropical storm 'Bebeng.'

Photo by Joaquin Vaccaro

moved northeast at 24 kilometers per hour towards Japan.

Servando said PAGASA is closely monitoring a "disorganized" low pressure area east of the Philippines.

He said the Visayas and Mindanao would experience cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms due to the in-

terropical convergence zone.

The rest of the country will be partly cloudy to cloudy with isolated rainshowers or thunderstorms mostly in the afternoon or early evening.

The NDRRMC said Bebang's death toll has reached 24. (www.philstar.com) ■

LEGAL NOTES

# Arizona-Style Immigration Laws Lose Steam



by Reuben S. SEGURITAN

strictionists and anti-illegal immigration groups lauded the State's draconian initiative. The fate of SB1070 will be determined once a federal appeals court issues a ruling, although many predict that regardless of the decision, the legislation will likely reach the U.S. Supreme Court.

Lawsuits have prevented the most controversial parts of the Arizona law from being enforced but this has not prevented other states from proposing legislation mimicking it. Arizona-style bills have been proposed in many states in the past year.

Recently however, in at least ten states these legislative proposals have failed. The legislatures of Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Nebraska, New Hampshire, South

Dakota, Virginia, Wyoming and, most recently, Mississippi, have all rejected similar anti-immigration legislation, at least for the time being.

One of the more closely-watched of these states was Mississippi, where the package of about 30 immigration bills advanced included proposals imposing an English-language requirement in obtaining a state driver's license and denying public benefits to the undocumented population. The most contentious of these bills is SB 2179 which would allow stop-and-search enforcement and criminalize failure to carry an alien registration document, provisions not unlike the ones in the Arizona law. This bill quietly died in the legislature recently after failing to meet a deadline.

Even within Arizona, it seems that the anti-immigrant bug has failed to catch on as a new slew of immigration bills was killed at the

state Senate. Some of the proposals in these unsuccessful bills would require the eviction of anyone on public housing who lives with an illegal immigrant, criminalize driving with an undocumented immigrant, and require medical practitioners to report undocumented immigrants.

Many believed that Arizona's SB 1070 and copycat legislation would not survive at the Supreme Court. One of the strongest legal arguments against these laws is the doctrine of "preemption" which is rooted in the U.S. Constitution's supremacy clause.

Essentially, this means that when it comes to immigration policy, federal law takes precedence over state-enacted regulation. The 14th Amendment also presents a significant legal hurdle to nativist legislation denying birthright citizenship.

Many immigrant supporters also raise the economic case

against anti-immigrant laws, aside from the obvious potential civil rights violations that may arise from their enforcement. It is estimated that Arizona suffered a loss of more than \$250 million from the economic boycotts in the wake of SB 1070, in addition to the government's litigation costs in the seven lawsuits challenging the legislation. The mayor of Phoenix predicts that SB1070 would cost the city at least \$90 million over 5 years.

In 2008, the economic analysis firm Perryman Group found that if all of the country's 8.1 million undocumented immigrants left the U.S., the economy would lose about \$2.8 trillion in annual spending. ■

REUBEN S. SEGURITAN has been practicing law for over 30 years. For further information, you may call him at (212) 695-5281 or log on to his website at [www.seguritan.com](http://www.seguritan.com)

## MAINLAND NEWS

# Obama's Immigration Reform Favors Pinoy Immigrants

by Jose KATIGBAK  
Thursday, May 12, 2011

WASHINGTON — PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA SAID AS PART OF a comprehensive immigration reform, families should be reunited more quickly instead of keeping them apart, a proposal which resonated strongly with Filipino immigrants whose waiting time to petition loved ones to join them in the US is among the longest.

In a major policy speech on immigration in El Paso, Texas across the border from Mexico where most illegal immigrants to the United States come from,

Obama said there was need to reform US immigration laws so "they address our economic and security needs while honoring our history as a nation of immigrants and a nation of laws."

He said the reforms should address four main issues: secure the borders and enforce the laws; businesses have to be held accountable if they exploit undocumented workers; undocumented immigrants have to admit they broke the law, pay their taxes, pay a fine, learn English and undergo background checks before they can get in line for legalization.

Immigration laws should be

updated to "respect families following the rules — reuniting them more quickly instead of splitting them apart."

There are an estimated 11 million illegal immigrants — including about 300,000 overstaying Filipinos — and they could be eligible for permanent resident cards, more popularly known as "green cards," under the proposed reforms.

Additionally, many of about 3 million legal Filipino residents or Filipino-Americans unable to get their children or siblings to join them because of an immigration backlog could benefit from the reforms.

Naturalized Americans who

petition their siblings generally have to wait 11 years in order to be reunited with them. For some countries such as the Philippines, the waiting period is as long as 23 years due to high demand by Filipinos for immigrant visas to the US, lawyers said.

In his speech, Obama said the US-Mexico border was more secure than ever before because more agents have been deployed in the area and the use of unmanned aerial surveillance vehicles has increased.

As a result US border agents have confiscated 31 percent more drugs, 75 percent more currency

and 64 percent more weapons in the past 2-1/2 years of his administration, he said.

Also far fewer people are attempting to cross the border illegally because of stepped up US patrols and apprehensions.

Obama enjoined all Americans to add their voices to the immigration debate.

"We need Washington to know that there is a movement for reform gathering strength from coast to coast," he said.

Obama has called for immigration reforms before but they have not gained much traction in Congress. ([www.philtar.com](http://www.philtar.com)) ■

# Western Union Launches Back-to-School Promo

THE WESTERN UNION COMPANY IS OFFERING A BACK-TO-SCHOOL promotion that gives money transfer senders to the Philippines an opportunity to send a special gift for the future of their children and a chance to win up to \$1,000 in a weekly sweepstakes.

Customers who send qualifying money transfers through Western Union to the Philippines and mention the promo code "school" will be eligible to earn a match of up to \$1,000 for the amount of the money transfer sent in one of the weekly drawings. No purchase is necessary to enter or win.

The promo comes at a time when many Filipinos are sending money back home to help relatives pay for their children's tuition, school uniforms, notebooks and other school supplies.

"It's like getting back the



money you sent, which might encourage you to send even more money to your children and other relatives going back to school," says Victoria Lopez-Negrete, senior vice president and general man-

ager for Western Union.

A total cash prize payout of up to \$10,000 is a substantial amount that continues Western Union's long-standing commitment to the Filipino community. The Western Union Foundation also provides a Family Scholarship Program—a new initiative for migrants, immigrants and their families designed to help them rise up the economic development ladder through education.

Winners of the back to school sweepstakes promotion will be contacted by mail and/or telephone using the information provided in the money transfer or mail-in entry. Winners' names will be posted in [westernunion.com/Philippines](http://westernunion.com/Philippines) and on Western Union's Facebook page.

For more details on the promo, visit [www.westernunion.com/Philippines](http://www.westernunion.com/Philippines). ■

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# PHILIPPINE LANGUAGE

## Kalpasan Ti Parada Ken Piesta, Ania Ti Sumaruno A Pasken Gracia Campos



### ILOKO

by Amado I. YORO

**N**alpasan ti maika-19 a tinawan a piesta ken parada idi Mayo 7 nga inangay ti Filipino Community Center ng apanguluan ni Presidente Toy Arre, Jr., a naangay iti Kapiolani Park, Waikiki, ken dadduma a grupo kas iti Hawaiian Airlines, Hawaii Tourism Authority, GMA Pinoy TV, Western Union, City & County of Honolulu, Island Insurance Foundation, Renato & Maria Etrata Foundation, Hawaii Community Foundation, Honolulu Filipino Junior Chamber of Commerce, Congress of Visayan Organization, United Filipino Council of Hawaii, Oahu Filipino Community Council ken dadduma pay.

Kudos Appo. balligi ti resulta. "Dimngeg la ngarudeten ti langit, nakidanggay met ti paniempog". Agasem, iti dua nga aldaw sakabayna, agtudoduden ken adda balbaag ti dakes a tiempo.

Nangrugi ti parada iti Fort DeRussy iti Saratoga ken Kalakaua Sts. Hawaiian Airlines, Governor Abercrombie, ti Royal Band, ti plota ti UFCH da Miss Hawaii Filipina Margaret Pascual ken Mrs. Hawaii Filipina Kanani Dias ken kakadua.

Sinarunomi a karwaha ti Miss Oahu Filipina ni Miss Oahu Filipina Marnelli Joy Basilio ken dagiti bayabayna. Symbolic, unique ti dekorasion a bunga iti arte ken isip ni Leo Gozar. Nakiparada met OFCC President Maria Etrata ken Community leader Melga Gedrano.

Iggem da Danny Villaruz [i-Santa] ken Loida Yamamoto [i-Vigan] ti banner ti Ilocos Surian Association of Hawaii nga isip ti nakiragupanni a sinarunomi ti karwaha ni Mrs. Ilocos Surian Davelyn Oujiano iti Sinaat. Iti ikudan ti nalabaga a Mustang na minaneho ni Gus Concepcion, da Antonio Palari, Johnny Idica ken Angelita Idica a nangigem iti banner ti Annak Ti Sinaat iti Hawaii.

Natingra ti kayat nga iladawan ti KNDI float a nagluganan dagiti sumagamano a DJ's ken anouncers kas kada Betty Beltran Peralta, Venus Vilorio, Gladys Menor, Maggie Domingo, kopy. Nabiag dagiti pinoun a saba, papaya, pina, nateng ken dagiti bungbaga a mangbabagaha iti kinapresko, kappuros ken nasulnat a bungbunga.

Nabatad iti pannakaiparagarang ti bukodtayo a kultura ken tradition babaen nagduduma a karwaha ken dagiti dekorasion tunggal mayasa. Dagiti nadumaduma a sarpag [booth] ti proyekto. Dakayo dagiti ima a nangarim. Nannamaa, nabungbunga koma manen dagiti masungad a proyekto.

a mangitag-ay ti ladawan ken pakasartaan iti bukodda a rehion. Adda met dagiti makan a nagduduma a luto dagiti agtagialako.

Pinullo met dagiti sarpag ngeni ti Bayanihan for Japan booth a naganyanami. Immatonan ti grupo da dati a House Vice Speaker Michael Y. Magaoy, dati a representante Jun Abinsay, Jean Jeremiah, Danny Villaruz, Vigan Association dagiti agkakabsat nga Abinsay, Alimboyoguen, Salvador, Yamamoto, dagiti kameng ti St. Anthony Knights of Columbus. Agawatadi ti boluntario a donasyon para kadagiti nabiktima ti tsunami idiaj Japan.

Iti entablado, uray iti saggamisan a taraktik ti arbis, tampok ti programa ti pangkanta dagiti artista iti telebisyon a naggapu iti Filipinas, ti pangkanta ti Society of Seven, ken ti pannakabunot ti papremio ti Hawaiian Airlines, a six round trip tickets to the Philippines.

Nagyanan ni Darwin Arellano, ti Overall Coordinator

Iti bukod a panangyebkas ni Leo Gozar iti bukodna a panagyanan kadagiti nakipagtrabaho iti pannakasagana dagiti karwaha ti UFCH ken OFCC. Kastyo:

Dakayo amin ti namagballigi ti proyekto. Dakayo dagiti ima a nangarim. Nannamaa, nabungbunga koma manen dagiti masungad a proyekto.

Danny Villaruz, Mario Palma,



Mrs. Hawaii Filipina Kanani Dias and Miss Hawaii Filipina Margaret Pascual ride the UFCH float. (inset) Maria Etrata makes a generous donation to Bayanihan for Japan Tsunami Victims

Jesse Pascual, Edna Alkपाल, Aurea Agas, Faye Cudal, Bernadette Fajardo, Larry Ramirez, Alma Caberto, Myrna Daguito, William Cudal and nieces, Eddie Agas, Ben & Carmen Cabrerros, Marnelli Joy Basilio, Mimi Gozar, Jhonnice Cabrera, John Garcia

Nagyanan met ni OFCC President Maria Etrata

Kunani met iti bukodmi: *Agyanankami met a naipasetkami iti pangasagana. Nannamami a nasaysayagat dagiti sumaruno a programa kas iti Miss Oahu Filipina, kombensyon ken adu pay. Akston ti nasken.*

### PAKORONA PAKOMBENSION DAGITI SUMARUNO A PASKEN

Mrs. Hawaii Filipina no Mayo 29, ti Miss Oahu Filipina Hunio 4, Hunio 12 ti OFCC convention, Hunio 19 ti Knights of Rizal, Hunio 15, UFCH convention idiaj Las Vegas. Hunio 30 Miss Hawaii Filipina a ni Margaret Pascual ti agdama a reyna.

Agosto 27 ti President Elpidio Quirino Award ti umuna a proyekto nga esponsoran ti Ilocos Surian Association of Hawaii. Agbiagi ti kominunidad. Agbiagi ti kultura ken ti puli a nagtaudan.

Maysa a pampanunot: Iti politika, ania ti masakbayan ni Filipino?

## MAINLAND NEWS



Manny Pacquiao

Juan Manuel Marquez

## Report: Marquez OKs Terms to Fight Pacquiao

by Mayer JAYMALIN  
Monday, May 9, 2011

MANILA, Philippines — **JUAN MANUEL MARQUEZ HAS APPROVED THE TERMS** offered by Top Rank Inc. for a fight with Manny Pacquiao in November, The Los Angeles Times reported today.

Golden Boy Promotions, Marquez's promoter, has the contractual ability to match Top Rank's

offer to Marquez.

Richard Schaefer, Golden Boy's chief executive, said Top Rank is offering Marquez \$5 million to fight Pacquiao at a catch weight of 144 pounds.

Pacquiao and Marquez previously figured in two controversial bouts — one that ended in a disputed draw in 2009 and the other resulting in a split-decision win for Pacquiao in 2008. ([www.philstar.com](http://www.philstar.com))

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## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### UNITED PANGASINAN ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII'S 43RD ANNIVERSARY AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS / SATURDAY

May 21, 2011, 6pm • Pacific Beach Hotel  
 For more info, contact Cely Villareal @ 778-2481 or Fred Martinez @ 358-8049

### UFCH'S MRS. HAWAII FILIPINA / SUNDAY

May 29, 2011, 6pm • Ala Moana Hotel • Contact: Lynne Gutierrez-728-1700

### OFCC'S MS. OAHU FILIPINA / SATURDAY

June 4, 2011, 6pm • Hawaii Prince Hotel • Contact: Maria Etrata-392-2962

### DINNER BALL, 113TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PROCLAMATION OF PHILIPPINE INDEPENDENCE / SATURDAY

June 11, 2011, 6pm • Hilton Hawaiian Village, Tapa Ballroom • For details, call

Maggie Domingo @783-0068 or Edna Alikpala @ 282-3669 or the Philippine Consulate @ 505-6316 ext. 241

### OFCC CONVENTION / SUNDAY

June 12, 2011, 7:30am - 4pm • Philippine Consulate • For more info, Contact: Mario Palma @ 397-8626, Maria Etrata @ 392-2962 or Amado Yoro @ 699-9814

### KNIGHTS OF RIZAL-HAWAII DR. JOSE P. RIZAL 150TH BIRTHDAY ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION AND DR. JOSE P. RIZAL AWARD GALA NIGHT / SUNDAY

June 19, 2011, 6pm • Waikiki Ballroom, Hale Koa Hotel • For more information, please call 864-5222 or email rtiogson@gmail.com

### UFCH CONVENTION IN LAS VEGAS / FRIDAY

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August 27, 2011, 6pm • Coral Ballroom, Hilton Hawaiian Village • Contact: Danny Villaruz @ 778-0233 or Maria Etrata @ 392-2962

## GLOBAL NEWS

# Asean Leaders Eye 'One Community' by 2015

by Aurea CAUCA  
 Monday, May 9, 2011

JAKARTA - LEADERS OF THE ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS agreed yesterday to work on coordinated action on various global issues of common interest and concern, enhance cooperation against human trafficking in the region and establish an ASEAN institute for peace and reconciliation.

The joint statement on the ASEAN Community in a Global Community of Nations, also this year's theme of the summit, endeavors ASEAN to have a common platform on various issues by 2022, separate from the goal to reach an ASEAN Community by 2015.

In a statement, leaders agreed to work together to accelerate the undertakings towards an ASEAN Community by 2015 and achieve a common platform for ASEAN beyond 2015 in Southeast Asia.

President Aquino and Foreign Affairs Secretary Albert del Rosario said they



were optimistic about the goal as they stressed the need for ASEAN to step up and expedite its work to reach its goal of promoting peace, stability and economic competitiveness in the region.

However, the border dispute between Thailand and Cambodia and the Myanmar issue raised doubts on whether the goal to have one ASEAN community could be achieved.

The Thailand-Cambodia border dispute occupied the most part of the ASEAN leaders' plenary session on the first day, surprising the delegates as it put the other issues on the sidelines, according to

Philippine officials at the meeting. "As part of the wider community of nations, ASEAN is confronted with the dynamics of the 21st century challenges, where issues have become more complex, multi-faceted, transnational, increasingly interlinked and interdependent," said the ASEAN leaders' in a joint statement

They agreed to work on an enhanced capacity to contribute and respond to key global issues of common interest and concern, which would benefit all ASEAN member-countries. (www.philstar.com)

# Fewer OFWs Work as House Helps in Saudi

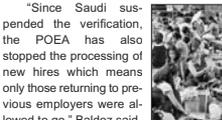
by Mayen JAYMAUN  
 Monday, May 9, 2011

MANILA, Philippines - FEWER FILIPINO WOMEN ARE LEAVING THE COUNTRY TO WORK as household service workers (HSWs) in Saudi Arabia, the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) reported yesterday.

Labor Secretary Rosalinda Baldoz said the deployment of HSWs in Saudi Arabia has dramatically dropped by about 80 percent since the Kingdom stopped the Philippine government's mandatory verification of employment contracts.

"Based on preliminary data from the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration, the deployment of HSWs dropped by about 80 percent since March," Baldoz said.

She attributed the significant decline to the fact that only returning workers are able to leave and work in the Kingdom.



"Since Saudi suspended the verification, the POEA has also stopped the processing of new hires which means only those returning to previous employers were allowed to go," Baldoz said.

The labor chief said the country deploys about 13,000 Filipino HSWs to Saudi annually and a majority of them are new hires.

Last March 12, the Saudi embassy sent a note verbally prohibiting the Philippine government from undertaking the mandatory processing and verification of employment contracts for HSWs.

The Saudi government did not state the reason for the imposition of the re-

striction, but there were reports that it was meant to protect the Philippine government's \$400 minimum monthly salary for household workers as well as requirement for Saudi employers to submit a detailed sketch of their house address before a job order could be approved.

The Philippine government has been implementing such strict requirements since 2006 in an effort to protect Filipino household workers from possible abuses.

Representatives of the Philippine and Saudi governments met a few weeks ago, but still failed to resolve the issue. (www.philstar.com)

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